PROCLAMATION

BY THE

Covernor of the State of Texas

41-2268

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14 of the Texas Constitution, I, William P. Clements, Jr., Governor of Texas, do hereby veto H.B. 3153 because of the following objections:

This bill would expand the jurisdiction of the statutory county court at law in Starr County to include the power to conduct arraignments and pre-trial hearings and accept guilty pleas in felony criminal matters. General felony criminal jurisdiction has been vested by the Legislature in the district courts of this state and not in statutory county courts or constitutional county courts. This derives from the philosophy that individuals whose punishment can include incarceration within the state correctional system should be subject to state courts. As district courts are state-funded and vacancies are subject to the appointive powers of state officials, including the Texas Senate, all felony prosecutions, including preliminary matters, should continue to fall solely and exclusively within the purview of these courts.

The Secretary of State shall take notice of this action and notify the Legislature.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused the seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 13 day of June, 1989.

William P. Clements, Jr Governor of Texas

> Filed in the Office of Secretary of State

> > JUN 18 1989

Statutory Filings Division Statutory Documents

Jack M. Rains Secretary of State